

February 24, 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. This memorandum recommends action in Paragraph 4.
2. The Edmundson story in THE PROGRESSIVE is obviously the basis of communist propaganda stories that have come out of Peking and London during the week-end. The British newspaper, the REYNOLD'S NEWS, of 22 February 1959 rewrote the Edmundson story as per the attached report, and this was repeated to East Asia also on Sunday.
3. Edmundson seems to have come just about as close to treason as one may legally do. There doesn't appear to be any action that can be openly taken in these instances but it might have a restraining influence on him if he should be brought before the Un-American Activities Committee to explain the motivation behind his action.
4. RECOMMENDATION: That the Un-American Activities Committee be asked to summon Edmundson and have him testify under oath on the subject.

Signed

Assistant to the Director

cc: DDCI
IG
Dir/Sec
✓ Legis. Counsel

2/25/59 - Mentioned this to Mr. Kirkpatrick with my strong recommendation that we not take any action with HCUA. Kirkpatrick agreed and telephoned the DCI indicating that the IG and ISW were strongly against the recommendation in paragraph 4. The Director agreed and probably will take no action on it. ISW

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